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inches. A memorandum in Mr. LASSELL's own handwriting accompanies it, as follows: "Plane speculum A retouched on "Machine, 21st June, 1875. Examined with 3 in. Telescope "and power 115. Defines Dial, name and small figures perfectly. "On distant objects requires the smallest possible lengthening of "focus; therefore slightly convex."

This mirror is a valued addition to our collection, not only for its own excellence, but also as a part of the great reflector constructed by Mr. LASSELL for his second expedition to Malta* which had such a memorable history. EDWARD S. HOLDEN.

LICK OBSERVATORY, August 17, 1896.

ASTRONOMICAL TELEGRAMS.

A telegram was sent to the Harvard College Observatory Friday, August 28th, at 8:05 A.M., to announce that Professor HUSSEY observed a bright prominence on the terminator of *Mars* August 27th, at 16^h 45^m P. S. T.†

ASTRONOMICAL TELEGRAMS (*A Correction*).

In an extract quoted on page 191, No. 50 of these *Publications* from the Report of Mr. TEBBUTT's Observatory for 1895, the following sentence occurs: "It is much to be regretted that beyond the original announcement of this comet [1895, IV. PERRINE] no further particulars were cabled to Australia."

A letter received from Professor KREUTZ states that this is a mistake, as a second telegram containing very good elements (by Professor LAMP), and a four-day ephemeris from December 13th to December 25th, was sent from Kiel to Melbourne Observatory, the central station for Australia, on the 8th of December. This telegram probably did not reach Mr. TEBBUTT.‡

We cheerfully comply with the request of Professor KREUTZ to publish this explanation, showing that the central station at Kiel was not responsible for the failure in the distribution of this intelligence. THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLICATION.

* See *Memoirs* R. A. S., Vol. XXXVI, 1867.

† Such prominences were first discovered at the Lick Observatory in 1890, and in 1892 and 1894 they were regularly observed at Mount Hamilton, Nice, and Flagstaff. They have been looked for during August, 1896, and first appeared as above. E. S. H.

‡ A late letter from Professor KREUTZ (September 3) notifies that this telegram did not reach Melbourne.